



Docket No.: R2180.0059/P059-E
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kazutaka Yamamoto

Confirmation No.: 1792

Application No.: 10/678,357

Art Unit: 2652

Filed: October 6, 2003

Examiner: N. Z. Hindi

For: OPTICAL DISK APPARATUS

Date of Notice of Allowance:
July 24, 2006

REQUEST FOR ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF REFERENCES CITED

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

As confirmed by a discussion with Applicant's representative on October 19, 2006, the examiner inadvertently failed to initial U.S. Patent No. 5,477,517 on the PTO/SB/08 received by the Patent and Trademark Office on September 26, 2006.

Applicant respectfully requests that the examiner acknowledge consideration of U.S. Patent No. 5,477,517. For his convenience, the attached forms include a copy of the

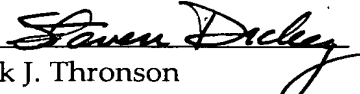
Application No.: 10/678,357

Docket No.: R2180.0059/P059-E

clean PTO/SB/08 submitted to the PTO; and a copy of the partly initialed PTO/SB/O8 mailed to Applicant on October 12, 2006.

Dated: October 24, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 
Mark J. Thronson

Registration No.: 33,082

Steven Dickey

Registration No.: 54,066

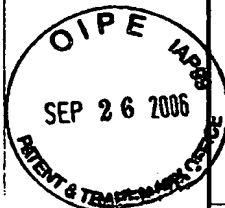
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP

1825 Eye Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006-5403

(202) 420-2200

Attorneys for Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-06)
Approved for use through 09/30/2008. OMB 0851-0031
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO				Complete If Known	
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Application Number	10/678,357-Conf. #1792
				Filing Date	October 6, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Kazutaka Yamamoto
				Art Unit	2652
				Examiner Name	N. Z. Hindi
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	R2180.0059/P059-E

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	5,477,517	12/19/1995	Gehringer, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ³
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
BA	BA	JP05-205270	08/13/1993			
BB	BB	JP06-342554	12/13/1994			
BC	BC	JP06-195861	07/15/1994			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 801.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

BEST AVAILABLE COPY

Examiner Signature	N. Z. Hindi	Date Considered	10/7/06
-----------------------	-------------	--------------------	---------



Docket No.: R2180.0059/P059-E
(PATENT)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:
Kazutaka Yamamoto

Confirmation No.: 1792

Application No.: 10/678,357

Art Unit: 2652

Filed: October 6, 2003

Examiner: N. Z. Hindi

Date of Notice of Allowance: July
24, 2006

For: OPTICAL DISC APPARATUS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT (IDS)

MS Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached PTO/SB/08. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is filed after the mailing date of a Final Office Action or Notice of Allowance, whichever occurred first, but on or before payment of the Issue Fee (37 CFR 1.97(d)). Applicant(s) hereby petition(s) that the Information Disclosure Statement be considered.

Pursuant to 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1), each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2)(ii), Applicant has not submitted copies of U.S. patents and U.S. patent applications. Applicant submits herewith copies of foreign patents and non-patent literature in accordance with 37 CFR 1.98(a)(2). An English language translation of the Abstract for each foreign patent is also being submitted herewith.

In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(g), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to mean that a search has been made or that no other material information as defined in 37 CFR 1.56(a) exists. In accordance with 37 CFR 1.97(h), the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement shall not be construed to be an admission that any patent, publication or other information referred to therein is "prior art" for this invention unless specifically designated as such.

It is submitted that the Information Disclosure Statement is in compliance with 37 CFR 1.98 and the Examiner is respectfully requested to consider the listed references.

Please charge our Credit Card in the amount of \$180.00 covering the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(p). Credit Card Payment Form SB-2038, with a signature from an authorized cardholder, is enclosed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge any deficiency in the fees filed, asserted to be filed or which should have been filed herewith (or with any paper hereafter filed in this application by this firm) to our

Application No.: 10/678,357

Docket No.: R2180.0059/P059-E

Deposit Account No. 04-1073, under Order No. R2180.0059/P059-E. A duplicate copy of this paper is enclosed.

Dated: September 20, 2006

Respectfully submitted,

By 

Mark J. Thronson

Registration No.: 33,082

Megan S. Woodworth

Registration No.: 53,655

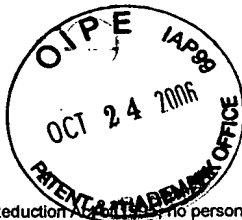
DICKSTEIN SHAPIRO LLP

1825 Eye Street, NW

Washington, DC 20006-5403

(202) 420-2200

Attorneys for Applicant



PTO/SB/08a/b (07-06)

Approved for use through 09/30/2006. OMB 0651-0031

U.S. Patent and Trademark Office; U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it contains a valid OMB control number.

Substitute for form 1449A/B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use as many sheets as necessary)				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	10/678,357-Conf. #1792
				Filing Date	October 6, 2003
				First Named Inventor	Kazutaka Yamamoto
				Art Unit	2652
				Examiner Name	N. Z. Hindi
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	R2180.0059/P059-E

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	5,477,517	12/19/1995	Gehring, et al.	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	JP05-205270	08/13/1993			
	BB	JP06-342554	12/13/1994			
	BC	JP06-195861	07/15/1994			

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant. ¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
-----------------------	--	--------------------	--